

LITTLE FOLKS

Great Friends.

Little Mabel has a comrade wherever she goes, a trusty and tried friend in her dog Champion, who escorts her about, keeps her out of danger, and is as useful and nearly as loving as a big brother. The latter might not like to be tied to a baby's apron-strings, and might often be tempted to play baseball and shinny and leave Mabel to her own devices. Not so with Champion, who is as faithful as the sun, and would scorn to forsake his charge until relieved from duty by some one in whom he could repose entire confidence—her mother or her Aunt Mary or her father himself. When Mabel, tired of play, falls asleep, with a dimpled arm around Champion's neck, and her dolly falls asleep, too, Champion takes care of them both, sleeps with one eye open, but does not move till the little princess wakes.

It is a good thing for a child to grow up in loving comradeship with domestic pets, with dear faithful dogs, with gentle cats, purring their pleasure at the touch of a wee hand, with any dumb creatures which require care and repay kindness with affection. If your dog must be kept shut up, provide him with some regular exercise, a ball to roll, or something which will allure him to movement. We are prone to forget that animals, like ourselves, are liable to suffer if shut up where nothing entertaining is going on. Even worse is their frequent suffering from thirst. Pussy will brighten up when she has a drink of good cool water. Our dog must have his thirst assuaged or he will suffer frightfully, just as we do when deprived of refreshing water.

Dora and the Flowers.

Nellie and Lelia are very fond of flowers, but baby Dora will be happy for hours, if mamma will only give her a few flowers to play with; and she does not spoil them or pull them to pieces, as many children do.

The first time mamma took Dora in a train she was a little afraid of the noise the engine made, and began to cry to be taken home. But a lady in the carriage had a lovely bunch of red and white and yellow roses, and bright little Nellie asked if she would mind showing them to her little sister.



A BASKET OF MISCHIEF.

'Oh, no! I will give her one if that will make her forget her fear,' said the lady, holding up one of the pretty red roses as she spoke.

'Pitty! pitty!' said little Dora, stretching out her hand for the flower, while the tear that was just going to fall stopped half way, and in a minute her whole face was bright with smiles.

Since then, whenever the children go for a long ride on tram-car or railway, Nellie and Lelia take their dolls, and baby Dora a bunch of flowers.

Earnest turned his back to the sun and his shadow walked before him.

'It's an awful black, ugly thing; makes me gloomy,' said Earnest.

'Then why don't you walk toward the sun and throw your shadow behind you?' asked Paul.

Why don't you children walk towards Jesus and look at him? That is the way to keep your little troubles behind you.—'Mayflower'.

The Child and the Sunset.

The sun had set behind those big trees, leaving a sky all clear and peaceful. There is no sound but the 'good night' of the thrushes. Tall field flowers lift their quiet heads, waiting for the evening dew.

God's sky, God's birds, God's flowers—why shouldn't Dora seek Him, when everything is fresh from His hand?

'He said we should find Him if we sought Him, and I want Him,' Dora said to herself. And then she prayed:—

'Dear God, I'm only a little girl out of all this world, but I want to find thee. Please, please, come into my heart now. Amen.' And did she find Him? She waited a little while, very quietly. The sweet evening air was like God's hand upon her; the still, soft twilight seemed full of Him, and into her heart came the glad promise, 'They that seek Me early shall find